

[22 February, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

3. Earned Leave and Half Pay Leave at the credit of the employees on the date of absorption in-BSNL shall be transferred to BSNL.

4. The dismissal or removal from service of BSNL of any employee after his absorption for any subsequent misconduct shall not amount to forfeiture of the retirement benefits for the service rendered under the Government and in the event of his dismissal or removal or retrenchment the decision of BSNL shall be subject to review by the Department of Telecom.

**Effect on Sale of Cellular Phone Service due to concessional call rates**

†40. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have failed to achieve the target fixed for sale of cellular phone service;

(b) if so, the detail thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that announcement of new concessional call rates by the private companies has affected its sale; and

(d) if so, the action being taken by Government to achieve the target and provide better facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No Sir.

(b) Not applicable, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. MTNL has announced its own tariff package of affordable call rates. Already 10,331 customers have applied for the service in MTNL Delhi.

(d) Not applicable, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.